Meeting of National Commission on SCs and STs

563. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings of the National Commission on Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes held so far from the date of inception;

(b) the broad policy decisions, if any, taken by the Commission;

(c) the details of recommendations made by the Commission during this period;

(d) whether all recommendations have been implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) 87 meetings have been held by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes since 12.03.1992 (i.e. date of inception).

(b) to (e) The policy decision taken by the Commission are incorporated in the Report of the Commission, which is presented to the President. The Commission has so far presented six annual reports and four special reports. Except sixth annual report all reports have been laid before each House of Parliament alongwith a memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any. The recommendations related to the State Government have been forwarded to the Governors of the concerned States for causing to lay before the legislatures of the concerned States along with a memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any.

National Pension Policy for Senior Citizens

564. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a National Pension Policy for the old persons in view of the growing problems of the aged;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of old persons given pension as on 31st March, 2002 State-wise; and

(e) the total amount disbursed as pension as on 31st March, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A proposal for the establishment of a National Old Age Social and Income Security Authority to operationalise an instrument which can encourage the workers/people in the un-organised sector to make savings, so that they do not become destitutes in their old age; is under consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e) A Statement showing total amount disbursed as pension and number of beneficiaries as reported by the States/UTs for the year 2001-02 under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) is enclosed.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of total amount disbursed as Old Age Pension by States/UTs and number of beneficiaries for the year 2001-02

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total amount disbursed (Rs. in lakh)	Total Beneficiaries Reported (in numbers)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4454.96	466000
2.	Bihar	3189.88	445201
3.	Chhattisgarh	1217.00	140576
4.	Goa	22.5	3270
5.	Gujarat	287.01	47110
6.	Haryana	264.43	50769
7.	Himachal Pradesh	201.52	23291
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	107.5	16413
9.	Jharkhand	1168.21	156112
10.	Karnataka	1853.93	183265
11.	Kerala	1132.4	141543
12.	Madhy Pradesh	3205.32	442537

1	2	3	4
13.	Maharashtra	2353.44	388389
14.	Manipur	3833.75	492366
15.	Punjab	387.25	45265
16.	Rajasthan	1452.55	101460
17.	Tamil Nadu	2781.56	314362
18.	Uttar Pradesh	7570.29	944758
19.	Uttaranchal	389.27	45002
20.	West Bengal	3087.51	331224
21.	A&N Islands	NR	NR
22.	Chandigarh	4.62	27.14
23.	D&N Haveli	7.32	NR
24.	Daman & Diu	NR	NR
25.	NCT Delhi	NR	NR
26.	Lakshadweep	0.16	15
27.	Pondicherry	21.23	4180
	Sub Total	**38995.24**	**4786063**
	NORTH EASTERN STATES		
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	20.13	1631
29.	Assam	2486.54	289241
30.	Manipur	223.32	27354
31.	Meghalaya	346.77	30904
32.	Mizoram	91.62	10523
33.	Nagaland	121.97	8106
34.	Sikkim	45.47	10104
35.	Tripura	573.66	60227
	Sub Total:	**3909.48**	**4380909**
	Grand Total	**42904.72**	**5224153**

Child Marriages

565. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of child marriage are on the increase of late;

(b) if so, the number of child marriages that have taken place during the last one year in the country; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check child marriage in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Government does not maintain data on child marriages as